

THE ODD NEWS



VOLUME 117, ISSUE 1

MT. CONSTITUTION LODGE

JANUARY 2007

2007 Leadership

Noble Grand
Vice Grand
Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer

Joe Goodrich
Eric Morris
Bill Thompson
Bill Wulff
Bill Gincig

Installation

Joe, Eric and the three Bills will be installed as our leaders for 2007. Installation ceremony will be Wednesday, January 24th. This is Joe's second time around as our Noble Grand. He brings a solid mix of understanding our past, our present condition, and our future direction. Joe has expressed an interest in keeping the ceremony brief and fun. He will present his vision for the coming year.



Madrona Point Presentation



Thanks to Peter Fisher for his wonderful presentation on the history and future of Madrona Point. He showed a beautiful collection of pictures of the Point at its best, and at its most challenged. Peter offered us a dispassionate history of the preservation movement and facilitated discussion about what the future may hold for the Point, and what we can do to help preserve the natural beauty. Robin Kucklick, who spent over 4 years caretaking the Point opened the presentation with a thoughtful Lummi reading that helped set the stage. The circle was full and discussion was respectful and wide-ranging. Thanks to all who attended.

The Odds offered Peter our unanimous support as he leads an effort to protect the Point from further degradation. One thing we can do immediately is walk the point and help reduce destructive practices as we see them – including off trail hiking, tree climbing, tree carving, smoking in the dry season, camping, shelter building, etc.

Odd Fellows Hall Operations

Hall operations have gone well this year, with record rental levels of recurring renters as well as special events and weddings. Revenue has nearly doubled in the past two years. We have continued a steady pace of capital improvements to the Hall and kitchen. Current projects underway include improving the kitchen ventilation system, painting the kitchen bathroom, installing a cinema-grade LCD projector to compliment the Hall's new sound system, adding a cedar trellis outside the kitchen for dining outside, repairing gutter damaged by heavy snowfall, and many other projects that come up when a Hall is so active. Thanks to the strong use of the Hall, we have funded these improvements without any increase in rent or outside donations.

Odd Fellows Scholarship



Being financially strong has allowed us to dream. One of the key initiatives we kicked off this past year was establishment of a Scholarship Fund. Combining record revenues with donations received, after the untimely death of John Abbott, we now have a fund of several thousand dollars. Discussions are underway to determine how and to whom we will distribute those funds, and what we want to foster. We encourage you to participate in the discussion. All ideas welcome!

Calendar of Events

January

1/17 Wed. Movie Night (Tibetan film Mountain Patrol); Brief business meeting

1/24 Wed. Installation Ceremony - Joe Goodrich becomes our new Noble Grand!

1/31 Wed. Continuing scholarship discussion with intention of converging on a plan

February

2/7 Wed. Open meeting

2/14 Wed. Valentine's Day - no meeting - Take your sweetie out on the town

2/17 Sat. 16th Anniversary of the preservation of Madrona Point! Watch for news on celebration events and community awareness programs.

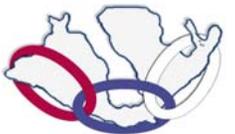


Join us for the Installation

Ceremony and help welcome Joe, Eric, and the three Bills to their 2007 leadership roles

Meet at the lodge at 7:00 pm

Mt. Constitution Lodge - No. 88
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
P.O. Box 1286
Eastsound, WA 98245
(360) 376-5640



For The Lummi Girl Who Found Her Magic In Horses

*Horse spirit and horse magic
ignited by the dreaming of a Lummi girl
who sang their names in the shadow of sundown.*

*Who offered them the sweets of her voice in ragged meadows,
who called them her own in the pale blue mornings
across the land she calls home.*

Excerpt from a poem by Tiffany Midge

